

| | |
|------------------|------|
| STATE: | |
| COUNTY: | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |

MD. HISTORICAL TRUST INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM
BOX 1704

ANNAPOLIS, MD. 21403 (Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| 1. NAME | | | |
| COMMON: Monument to Busk Declaration | | | |
| AND/OR HISTORIC: Tablet marking site of building in which Courtroom held. | | | |
| 2. LOCATION | | | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: North side of Philadelphia Road about | | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: Busk 100' east of Bynum Run. | | | |
| STATE: Md | CDDE: | COUNTY: Harford | CODE: |
| 3. CLASSIFICATION | | | |
| CATEGORY (Check One) | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC |
| District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/> | Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/> |
| PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) | | | |
| Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> | Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> | Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific <input type="checkbox"/> | Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Information |
| 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY | | | |
| OWNERS NAME: State Roads Commission | | | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: 300 W. Preston Street | | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore | STATE: Md | CODE: | STATE: |
| 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION | | | |
| COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: | | | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: HARFORD COUNTY COURT HOUSE 40 S. MARKET | | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: ELLICOTT | STATE: MARYLAND | CODE: | COUNTY: |
| APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: | | | |
| 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS | | | |
| TITLE OF SURVEY: | | | |
| DATE OF SURVEY: Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/> | | | |
| DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: | | | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: | | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: | STATE: | CODE: | ENTRY NUMBER |
| | | | DATE |

ACREAGE

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7. DESCRIPTION

| | | | | | |
|-----------|---|---|--------------------------------|---|---|
| CONDITION | (Check One) | | | | |
| | Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Good <input type="checkbox"/> | Fair <input type="checkbox"/> | Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> | Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/> |
| INTEGRITY | (Check One) | | (Check One) | | |
| | Altered <input type="checkbox"/> | Unaltered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Moved <input type="checkbox"/> | Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This is a copper tablet about
30" square bolted to a granite
block about 36" x 36" x 36"
surrounded by a post and pipe
fence.

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian ☐16th Century ☐18th Century ☐20th Century ☒15th Century ☐17th Century ☐19th Century ☐

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal ☐Education ☐Political ☐Urban Planning ☐Prehistoric ☐Engineering ☐

Religion/Phi-

Other (Specify) ☐Historic ☐Industry ☐losophy ☐Agriculture ☐Invention ☐Science ☐Art ☐Landscape ☐Sculpture ☐Commerce ☐Architecture ☐

Social/Human-

Communications ☐Literature ☐itarion ☐Conservation ☐Military ☐Theater ☐Architecture ☐Music ☐Transportation ☐

Public Information
and
Historic Site Location

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

" This Tablet
marks the site of the building in which
was held the courts of Harford County from
its organization in March 1774 until March
1783. In this house the Committee of Harford
County held its meetings before and during
the early years of the Revolution. Here at a
meeting held the 22nd day of March 1775
the following members passed and signed
a formal declaration pledging their
lives and fortunes to the cause which,
a year later, resulted in the Declaration
of Independence. "

34 signatures names are given

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Wright, C Mutton - Our Hartford Heritage p 66-67.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY | | | O R | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE | | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|--|-------------------------|--|
| CORNER | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | |
| | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | |
| NW | ° ' " | ° ' " | | ° ' " | ° ' " | |
| NE | ° ' " | ° ' " | | ° ' " | ° ' " | |
| SE | ° ' " | ° ' " | | ° ' " | ° ' " | |
| SW | ° ' " | ° ' " | | ° ' " | ° ' " | |

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

| | | | |
|--------|------|---------|------|
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |

11. FORM PREPARED BY

| | | |
|--------------------|-------|------|
| NAME AND TITLE: | | |
| ORGANIZATION | DATE | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: | STATE | CODE |

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

in Virginia, and the Continental Congress again met in Philadelphia in May, 1775, and agreed to stop trade with Great Britain until the objectionable Acts were repealed.

Again, Bush came into prominence by having as its guests men like George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and Patrick Henry, as they journeyed through Harford to Philadelphia. In this Congress our distinguished citizen, William Paca, who was born at Abingdon, together with Matthew Tilghman, Thomas Johnson, Jr., Robert Goldsborough, and Samuel Chase, represented Maryland.

By the early part of 1775 almost our entire citizenry had become so stirred by the national controversy that a most important event took place at Bush. Just three days before Patrick Henry made his well known speech, a committee of thirty-four Harford citizens met at the Bush Tavern and, after deliberation, signed the famous Bush Declaration, which is quoted in full with its signers in another chapter.

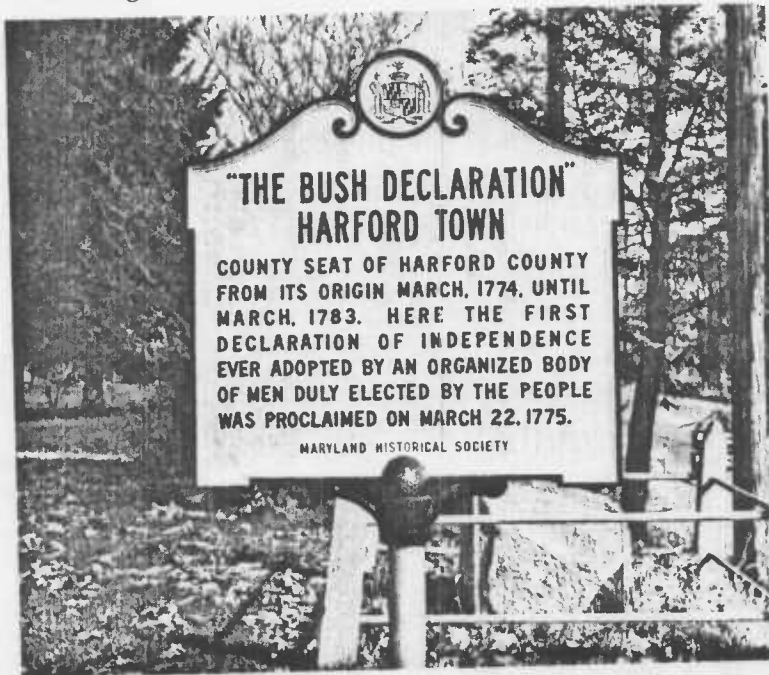


Photo by Dr. David C. Hodge

The committee was in no sense just a mass meeting, but its members were duly elected by the 10,000 inhabitants of Harford County, and was composed of prominent men, many of whom are ancestors of citizens of today.



Photo by Dr. David C. Hodge

Tablet marking the site of the building in which Court was held 1774-1783.
Bush Declaration signed here on March 22, 1775.

Just as the former county seats of Old Baltimore and Joppa had served their day, so Bush ceased to be and soon faded into decay. Of all the dwellings, stores, and inns, only one—the large old coachhouse on Route 7—remains to remind us of the glorious history of 200 years ago.

Scott's Old Fields (Bel Air) 1782-

By the end of the Revolution, the population of Harford had increased to almost 12,000, and the new settlers were beginning to occupy lands in central and northern sections. Consequently, there was demand that the county seat be located somewhere more accessible to the whole population.

On January 22, 1782, an Act was passed by the General Assembly enabling the voters to select a new location for the seat of government. The places named in the Act to be voted for were Harford Town (Bush), Gravelly Hill, Lower Cross Roads, Otter Point, and Scott's Old Fields (Bel Air). By the same Act, the justices were authorized to purchase four

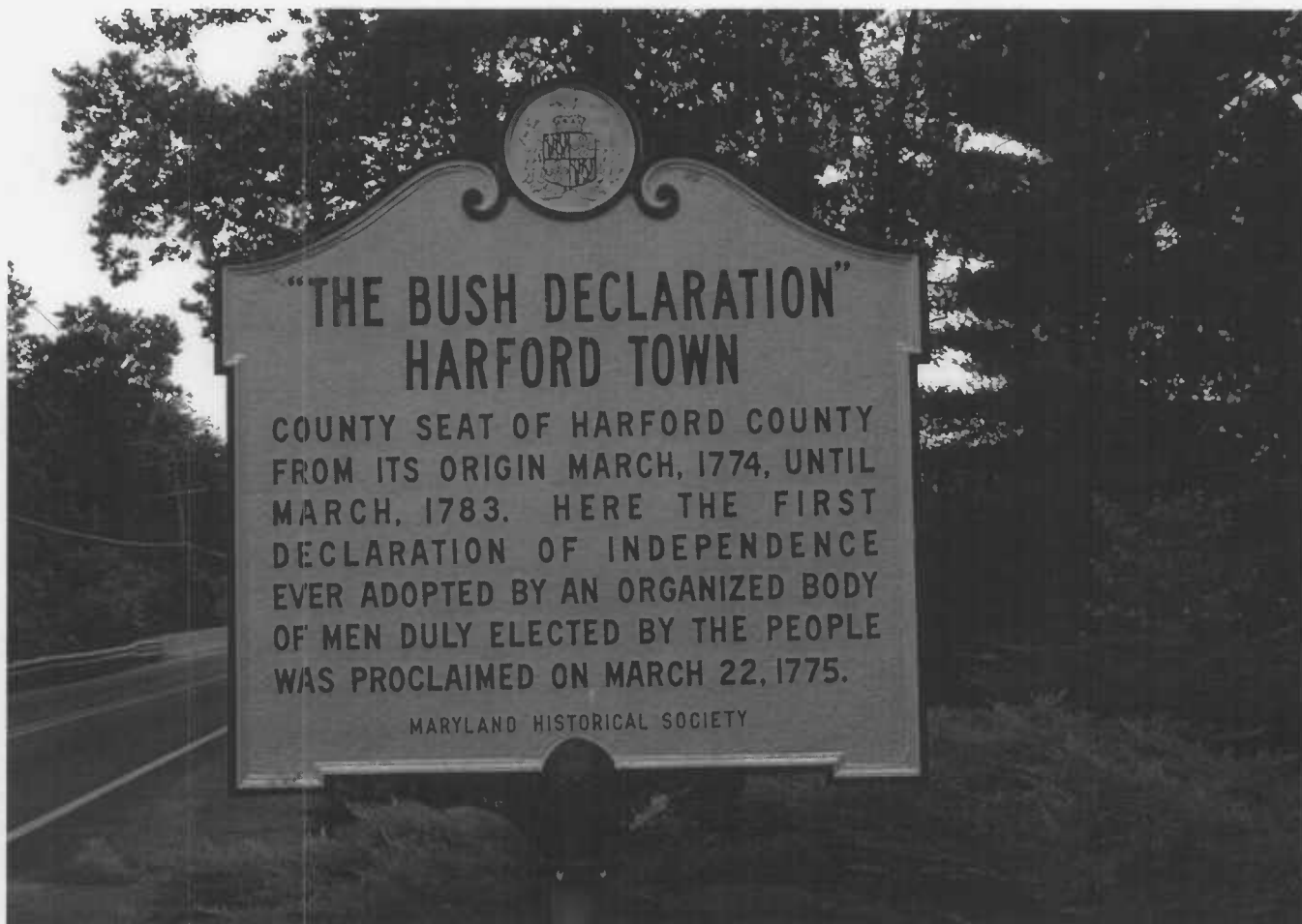


Photo by Don Cook